

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the instant application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for re-booking passengers from cancelled flights, comprising the steps of:

obtaining passenger data for said passenger, wherein said passenger data comprises a passenger re-booking cost that includes the cost to an airline which has cancelled a flight of offering to re-book said passenger on an alternative flight offered by a different airline;

determining an accommodation cost, including hotel and meal charges, of accommodating the passenger until another flight offered by the airlines is available, and if the accommodation cost is less than the re-booking cost offering an accommodation to said passenger;

comparing said passenger data for said passenger with at least one rule; and if the re-booking cost is less than the accommodation cost, offering a plurality of alternative re-booking flights to said passenger based upon said comparing step.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said passenger data for said passenger comprises [[the]] remaining unflown ticket value[[,]] the passenger re-booking cost, and [[the]] a passenger lifetime value.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said passenger lifetime value comprises at least one of the frequent flyer status of the passenger and the ticket purchase history of the passenger.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said passenger data is provided real time.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said re-booking flights are determined from flight inventory data and reservation data.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said passenger data is obtained from at least one selected from the group consisting of accounting data, customer relationship management data, and loyalty data.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein a value score for said passenger is obtained using said passenger data, and said re-booking flights are offered to said passenger based upon said passenger value score.

8. (Currently Amended) A machine readable storage having stored thereon a computer program having a plurality of code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps of:

obtaining passenger data for said passenger, wherein said passenger data comprises a passenger re-booking cost that includes the cost to an airline which has cancelled a flight or offering to re-book said passenger on an alternative flight offered by a different airline;

determining an accommodation cost, including hotel and meal charges, of accommodating the passenger until another flight offered by the airlines is available, and if the accommodation cost is less than the re-booking cost offering an accommodation to said passenger;

comparing said passenger data for said passenger with at least one rule; and
if the re-booking cost is less than the accommodation cost, offering a plurality of alternative re-booking flights to said passenger based upon said comparing step.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8, wherein said passenger data for said passenger comprises [[the]] remaining unflown ticket value[[,]] the passenger re-booking cost, and [[the]] a passenger lifetime value.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein said passenger lifetime value comprises at least one of the frequent flyer status of the passenger and the ticket purchase history of the passenger.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said passenger data is provided real time.

12. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said re-booking flight candidates are determined from flight inventory data and reservation data.

13. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said passenger data is obtained from at least one selected from the group consisting of accounting data, customer relationship management data, and loyalty data.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein a value score for said passenger is obtained using said passenger data, and said re-booking flights are offered to said passenger based upon said passenger value score.

15. (Currently Amended) A system for re-booking passengers who are unable to travel on scheduled flights, comprising:

means for obtaining re-booking flight candidates for said passengers, wherein said passenger data comprises a passenger re-booking cost that includes the cost to an airline which has cancelled a flight of offering to re-book said passenger on an alternative flight offered by a different airline;

means for determining an accommodation cost, including hotel and meal charges, of accommodating the passenger until another flight offered by the airlines is available, and if the accommodation cost is less than the re-booking cost offering an accommodation to said passenger;

means for obtaining passenger data for said passengers with at least one rule; and means for selecting passengers for re-booking flights based upon said passenger data offering a plurality of alternative re-booking flights to said passenger based upon said comparing step if the re-booking cost is less than the accommodation cost.